
IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 26, 1863.

Ordered to be printed.

AMENDMENT

Intended to be proposed by Mr. WILSON, of Massachusetts, to the bill (H..R. 675) to raise additional soldiers for the service of the government, viz: Strike out all after the enacting clause, and insert the following:

3 That the forces authorized to be received into the service of
4 the United States by the twelfth section of the act approved
5 the seventeenth of July, eighteen hundred and sixty-two,
6 entitled "An act to amend the act calling forth the militia, to
7 execute the laws of the Union, suppress insurrection, and
8 repel invasion, approved February twenty-eighth, seventeen
9 hundred and ninety-five, and the act amendatory thereof, and
10 for other purposes," shall be mustered in, organized, armed,
11 and equipped as other troops; they shall be officered by per-
12 sons appointed and commissioned by the President, and gov-
13 erned by the rules and articles of war, and by such other
14 rules and regulations, not inconsistent with the Constitution,
15 as may be prescribed: *Provided*, That no person of African

16 descent shall be appointed to rank, or exercise authority over
17 white officers, soldiers, or men in the military or naval service
18 of the United States.

1 SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That each and every
2 able-bodied male person of African descent of the age of
3 twenty years and under forty-five years, including those made
4 free by the act of Congress approved August sixth, eighteen
5 hundred and sixty-one, entitled "An act to confiscate property
6 used for insurrectionary purposes," or the act approved July
7 seventeenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, entitled "An act
8 to suppress insurrection, to punish treason and rebellion, to
9 seize and confiscate the property of rebels," or by the procla-
10 mations of the President of the United States, dated September
11 twenty-second, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, and January
12 first, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, respectively, or by
13 any other legal and competent authority exercised in sup-
14 pressing the present rebellion, shall severally be forthwith
15 enrolled as a military force of the United States by the com-
16 manding officers within whose departments such persons shall
17 be found, and such number of them as the President shall,
18 from time to time, deem necessary shall be organized, armed,
19 equipped, and mustered into the service of the United States
20 to serve during the war.